

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5 1. An information management system organized to maintain an accurate representation of a list of data objects, comprising:

a system of record coupled to receive data objects;

an updating system coupled to receive the data objects

10 from the system of record and coupled to provide the data objects organized into a first list of data objects in a first format at predetermined intervals; and

a directory coupled to receive the first list of data objects and coupled to provide a second list of data objects
15 in a second format to the updating system at the predetermined intervals.

2. The information management system of claim 1, wherein the system of record comprises:

20 a graphical interface coupled to provide a data input mechanism to the system of record and coupled to provide a data output mechanism from the system of record; and

a communication interface coupled to provide two-way communication between the system of record and the updating
25 system.

3. The information management system of claim 1, wherein the updating system comprises a file transfer mechanism coupled to transfer the first list of data objects and
30 coupled to transfer the second list of data objects at the predetermined intervals.

4. The information management system of claim 1, wherein the directory comprises:

a first directory server coupled to receive the first list of data objects and coupled to provide the second list of data objects; and

a second directory server coupled to receive the first list of data objects from the first directory server to maintain redundant sets of the first list of data objects.

5. An information management system coupled to maintain synchronization of first data objects contained within a first storage area to second data objects contained within a second storage area, the information management system comprising:

a directory coupled to receive the first data objects and coupled to store the data objects into the first storage area;

an event system coupled to detect a first set of all changes made to the first data objects and coupled to provide a second set of changes equal to a portion of the first set of all changes; and

an update system coupled to receive the second set of changes and coupled to modify the second data objects in response to the second set of changes.

6. The information management system of claim 5, wherein the directory comprises:

a directory server coupled to receive the first data objects and coupled to provide the first data objects to the first storage area contained within the directory server; and

a connection server coupled to receive the first data objects from the first storage area and coupled to provide the second data objects to the second storage area.

7. The information management system of claim 5, wherein the event system comprises:

an event monitor coupled to receive the first set of changes made to the first data objects; and

a log application coupled to receive the first set of changes and coupled to provide the second set of changes at predetermined time intervals.

8. A method of operating an automatically updated information management system, comprising:

editing a first data object in a first device;

detecting changes made to the first data object in the first device; and

equating a second data object to the first data object upon detection of the changes made to the first data object.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein editing the first data object in the first device comprises:

authenticating a user at a data terminal; and

performing a data edit operation within the first device.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein authenticating the user at the data terminal includes authenticating the user at a wireless data terminal.

5 11. The method of claim 8, wherein detecting changes made to the first object comprises:
executing an event services function within the first device; and
logging events from the event services function.

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12. The method of claim 11, wherein equating the second data object to the first data object comprises:
examining the logged events which affect the second data object; and

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updating the second data objects affected by the logged events to equate the second data objects to the first data objects.

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13. A method of using an information management system to validate an external set of information, comprising:

storing a set of internal information in a directory;

receiving a set of external information;

comparing the set of external information to the set of internal information to produce a set of difference

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information; and

utilizing the set of difference information to alter the set of external information.

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14. The method of claim 13 wherein receiving a set of external information in a directory comprises engaging a first file transfer function at predetermined intervals to place a file of information into a repository.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein comparing the set of external information to the set of internal information comprises:

engaging a second file transfer function at the
5 predetermined intervals to retrieve the file of information from the repository; and

comparing the file of information to the internal information to produce the difference information.

10 16. The method of claim 13 wherein utilizing the set of difference information to alter the set of external information comprises engaging a scrubbing function to create an error report utilized to correct errors in the external information.

15 17. A method of using an information management system to facilitate a new hiring process, comprising:

entering data associated with a new employee into a directory;

20 automatically requesting employee services from within the directory; and

adding the employee to an updating function of the information management system.

25 18. The method of claim 17 wherein entering data associated with the new employee comprises:

authenticating a user at a data terminal; and

performing a data edit operation within the information management system to add data objects associated with the
30 new employee.

19. The method of claim 17 wherein automatically requesting employee services comprises requesting electronic services including,

- (a) electronic mail accounts, and
- (b) electronic schedulers.

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20. The method of claim 17 wherein adding the employee to an updating function comprises adding the employee to an automatic file transfer mechanism, wherein the automatic file transfer mechanism synchronizes employee data between a first device and a second device.

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21. The method of claim 17 wherein adding the employee to an updating function comprises:

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triggering an event in response to adding the employee; and

initiating a data transfer from a first system to a second system in response to the event.

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